

Research Activity Panel Meeting Summary
Gregor M. Cailliet, MLML, RAP Chair

NOVEMBER 1998 MEETING

Host: Big Creek Marine Ecological Reserve/Landels-Hill Big Creek Reserve

Date: Friday, November 13, 1998

10:30 - followed by the Annual RAP Barbecue (Thanks, Aaron!)

Attendance: 10 RAP members and 6 guests

PRESENTATIONS

INSTITUTIONAL UPDATE: Big Creek Ecological Reserve (John Smiley)

Reserve is 20 years old

Its purpose is to teach and research in natural environment

Pristine watershed, not even public trails

Marine Studies: Pomeroy, VenTresca, Yoklavich, Smiley's fish survey

Size of Big Creek Reserve: 50 fathom line offshore (= about one mile off shore), square black rock in center, 2 miles long

Every nine months they bring together people who do research on Big Sur

They have a Big Sur bibliography on research.

**HIGHWAY ONE FAILURE ALONG BIG SUR COAST AND OFFSHORE
MULTIBEAM DATA IMAGERY (Steve Eittreim)**

Multibeam bathymetry with back scatter and side scan sonar maps from USGS

MBARI (with tag along by USGS) more Multibeam bathymetry, 3 m resolution

deeper in Monterey Bay and down Big Sur coast

There is very clear fault line geomorphology in deeper area off Big Sur

80% of earthquakes occur at Sierra Hill (which is at Hurricane Point) we will be fighting mother nature in trying to stabilize this area fault line runs right to Hurricane point

Hurricane point

1.5 Million to do a 60day survey done by MBARI with Multibeam survey

DISCUSSION

OVERVIEW OF RAP IN 1998 (Andrew DeVogelaere; see also end of RAP report*)

Nine Meetings:

Big Creek Marine Ecological Reserve/Landels-Hill Big Creek Reserve

CDFG- Marine Division; MBEST/CIRPAS; CSUMB; NPS;

MBNMS/Norte; PFEL; MLML/Sea Grant; and ESNERR/NURP.

Things that worked well:

Institutional updates and meeting at different organizations

Input to Sanctuary staff (diver disturbance, SSE, Highway one management plan, live fish fishery)

Sanctuary Currents: speakers, posters, awards

Networks on larger projects; Sea floor mapping; Shared tank facility; and McArthur Cruise; links with SAC; past reports of RAP (Shark Chumming and Sound; Presentations (Croll, PEARL, Fish at Big Creek, USGS mapping, El Nino studies)

Information on legislation; RAP letters of support for research projects

Things that did not work so well:

UNESCO Directory; RAP gaps filled by MBCORC; regional GIS;

Interest in written items, permit report, minutes, and research program updates.

Discussion of potential changes for the future:

Better attendance from HMS and MBARI

RAP members need to do a better job of reporting back to their institutions and colleagues

Have a MBCORC update added as a regular agenda item and provide RAP updates to MBCORC.

SANCTUARY CURRENTS: AWARD NOMINATIONS (Andrew De Vogelaere)

As an annual RAP task, RAP members need to nominate their Sanctuary Currents award nominees (Ricketts Memorial Lecturer and the Science/Research Award).

Then the information will be compiled and sent to the RAP via email as a "ballot."

STATUS OF SHARED TANK FACILITY AT NPS (Jeff Paduan)

Del Monte Beach property owned by the Navy, old sewer treatment facility; 130 feet long, 30 feet wide, 20 feet deep; Jeff would like input on what kind of studies RAP members and colleagues might have interest in doing at this proposed facility;

Preliminary estimate is ~10 million dollars to get it up and running;

The NPS Admiral is very interested in developing the area;

It is also a Sea Camp possibility and an opportunity for combined office space, including an MBNMS office

OVERVIEW OF NEW USGS SEAFLOOR DATABASE (Mike Field)

Database on seafloor characteristics (any kind of point sample information); teamed up with science institute from Sydney Australia and are producing maps; They are looking for any information you may have (USGS will give them more information to catalogue and study), and the donator will get maps; and It is all published in ArcView.

SHORT INFORMATION ITEMS

Verbal items:

Status of ICON, the Innovative Coastal-Ocean Observing Network (Jeff Paduan)

National Ocean Partnership Program monitoring mesoscale features moving through central California area;

Largely physical measurements 4 moorings taking current and optic measurements, and CODAR;

Update on the live fish fishery (Greg Cailliet)

The subcommittee has not met because they do not need to meet;

Greg has gotten updates on the topic/data from CDFG and there is a much more extensive database and information than we originally thought;

Bill Douros wrote a draft letter to Jackie Schaffer asking for action on a coordinated synthesis of live fish fishery data and related legislation, mentioning the RAP is available for advice.

Update on Sustainable Seas Expeditions (A. DeVogelaere)

Briefly discussed during lunch.

Legislation update (Caroline Pomeroy)

Briefly discussed during lunch.

Written items (no discussion unless there were questions):

MBCORC (Andrew DeVogelaere)

On October 14, research institution Directors met for a day to discuss research activities in the Monterey Bay region. The Monterey Bay Crescent Research Consortium is a newly developing organization to promote research in the region. Presentations were given by all institutions in the general area.

ATOC (Andrew DeVogelaere)

The ATOC Consortium published a paper in the August 28 issue of Science on "Ocean climate change: comparison of acoustic tomography, satellite altimetry, and modeling."

Introduced species (Andrew DeVogelaere)

Dr. Kerstin Wasson, with Humboldt State University, is working with MBNMS to update our introduced species list on the MBNMS Site Characterization (see MBNMS web site <http://bonita.mbnms.nos.noaa.gov>)